

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A device that provides diagnostic and control capability for equipment from a remote location comprising:

an apparatus detached from the equipment comprising a display device, an input device, software executed by the apparatus and a communications device; and

a hardware controller attached to the equipment to enable monitoring of the equipment by the apparatus through the communications device, wherein a unique identifier is stored on the controller, the unique identifier is assembled using an array of data such that specific aspects of the equipment are identified.

3. (Previously Presented) The device as in claim 2, wherein the controller is queried by the apparatus.

4. (Previously Presented) The device as in claim 2, wherein the controller transmits data to the apparatus without being queried.

5. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 4, wherein the data being transmitted is an indication detected by the controller of an equipment problem.

6. (Previously Presented) The device as in claim 3, wherein the controller transmits data in response to the query.

7. (Previously Presented) The device as in claim 3, wherein the controller is instructed by the software code to gather specific data about the equipment and transmitted to the to the apparatus.
8. (Previously Presented) The device in claim 7, wherein the data is compiled by the software in a user preferred manner.
9. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 7, wherein the data is collected for a specific period of time after which time the data is lost and a new data collection period begins.
10. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 9, wherein the data is available for review by a user on the apparatus during the specific period of time.
11. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 2, wherein the software code is programmed with acceptable operational limits for the equipment associated with the identifier.
12. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 11, wherein the limits are compared to the data retrieved from said controller, if results are within the acceptable operational limits the data no further action is taken, if results are not within acceptable said limits then apparatus carries out a predefined task.
13. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 12, wherein the predetermined task is alerting the user as to the condition.

14. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 12, wherein the predetermined task is alerting a technician as to the performance of the equipment.

15. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 12, wherein the predetermined task is transmitting data to the equipment to adjust certain operational features of the equipment.

16. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 7, wherein the data is recorded and stored and available for review by the user.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method that provides remote diagnostic and control capability for equipment comprising:

monitoring the equipment through a hardware_controller attached the equipment with a remote apparatus comprised of an input device, display device, a communications device and software code executed by the apparatus; and

storing a unique identifier on the controller that is attached to the equipment, the unique identifier is assembled using an array of data such that specific aspects of the equipment are identified.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising ~~the step of:~~

selecting with the software code specific data collection wherein the software code records the data of pre-selected features of the equipment.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising ~~the step of:~~

querying the controller with request for data, wherein the data is transmitted to the apparatus.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising ~~the step of~~ responding and transmitting a response to the query.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, further comprising ~~the step of~~ compiling of the data by the apparatus and stored for a period of time.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein data collection is gathered for a fixed period of time after which the data is removed and a new data period is commenced.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the data is recorded and stored and available for review.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising ~~the step of~~ comparing the data received from the controller with pre-selected limits, if the results of the comparison are outside of the acceptable limits then the apparatus proceeds with a predefined action; if the results of the comparison are with the acceptable limits then no further action is taken.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the predefined action is alerting an individual.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the predefined action is alerting a technician as to the performance of the equipment.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the predefined action is transmitting data to the equipment to adjust certain features of the equipment.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein alerting an individual is accomplished by sending a message.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the predefined action is playing a prerecorded message.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) A device that provides remote diagnostic and control capability for equipment comprising;

remote means for monitoring the equipment, the means for monitoring is an apparatus that is comprised of an input device, display device, a communications device and software coded executed by the apparatus;

means for determining the status of the equipment through the means for monitoring, wherein the means for determining is a hardware device and is attached to the equipment and contains a unique identifier, the unique identifier is assembled using an array of data such that specific aspects of the equipment are identified.

33. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 32, wherein the means for determining is a hardware controller.

34. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 32, further comprising means for selecting with software code specific data collection wherein the software code records the data of pre-selected features of the equipment.

35. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 33, further comprising means for compiling the data from the equipment by querying the controller with request for data.

36. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 35, wherein data collection is gathered for a fixed period of time after which the data is removed and a new data period is commenced.

37. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 35, wherein the data is recorded and stored and available for review.

38. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 35, further comprising means for comparing the data received from the controller with pre-selected limits, if the results of the comparison are outside of the acceptable limits then the apparatus proceeds with a predefined action, if the results of the comparison are with the acceptable limits then no further action is taken.

39. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 38, wherein the predefined action is alerting an individual.

40. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 39, wherein the predefined action is alerting a technician as to the performance of the equipment.

41. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 38, wherein the predefined action is transmitting data to the equipment to adjust certain features of the equipment.

42. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 39, wherein alerting an individual is accomplished by sending a message.

43. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 42, wherein the predefined action is playing a prerecorded message.

44. (New) The device as in claim 2, wherein the specific aspects of the equipment comprises a manufacturer of the equipment.

45. (New) The device as in claim 2, wherein the specific aspects of the equipment comprises operating limits.

46. (New) The device as in claim 2, wherein the specific aspects of the equipment comprises manufacturer's serial number.

47. (New) The device as in claim 2, wherein the specific aspects of the equipment comprises a feature set of the equipment.